

COVA CONDOMINIUM PROJECT

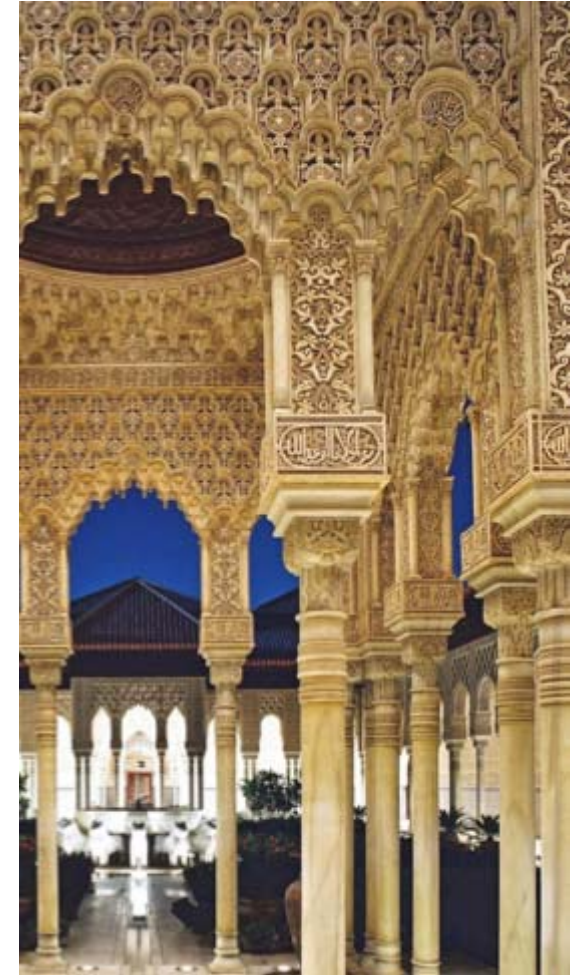
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

Joseph Danielson, Interior Designer
Diane Al Shihabi, Mentor

THE PROBLEM

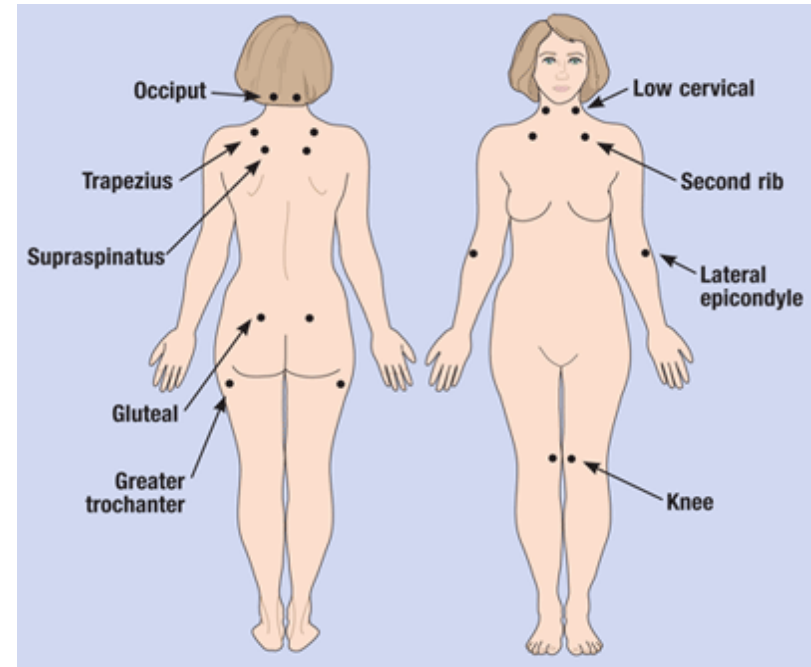
New York City architect, Francés Cova, and his elderly mother, Letizia, have purchased a condominium in the Brooklyn Heights neighborhood of Brooklyn. The Covas desired a design concept that would satisfy Letizia's physical limitations related to Fibromyalgia, accommodate Francés' hobbies and professional activities, and integrate their ancestral Spanish heritage with contemporary ideologies of simplicity.

RESEARCH METHODS



To express cultural identity and aesthetic preferences through architectural character, I analyzed Hispano Moresque and Roman classical forms reflecting Spain's Moorish and Imperial Roman influences.

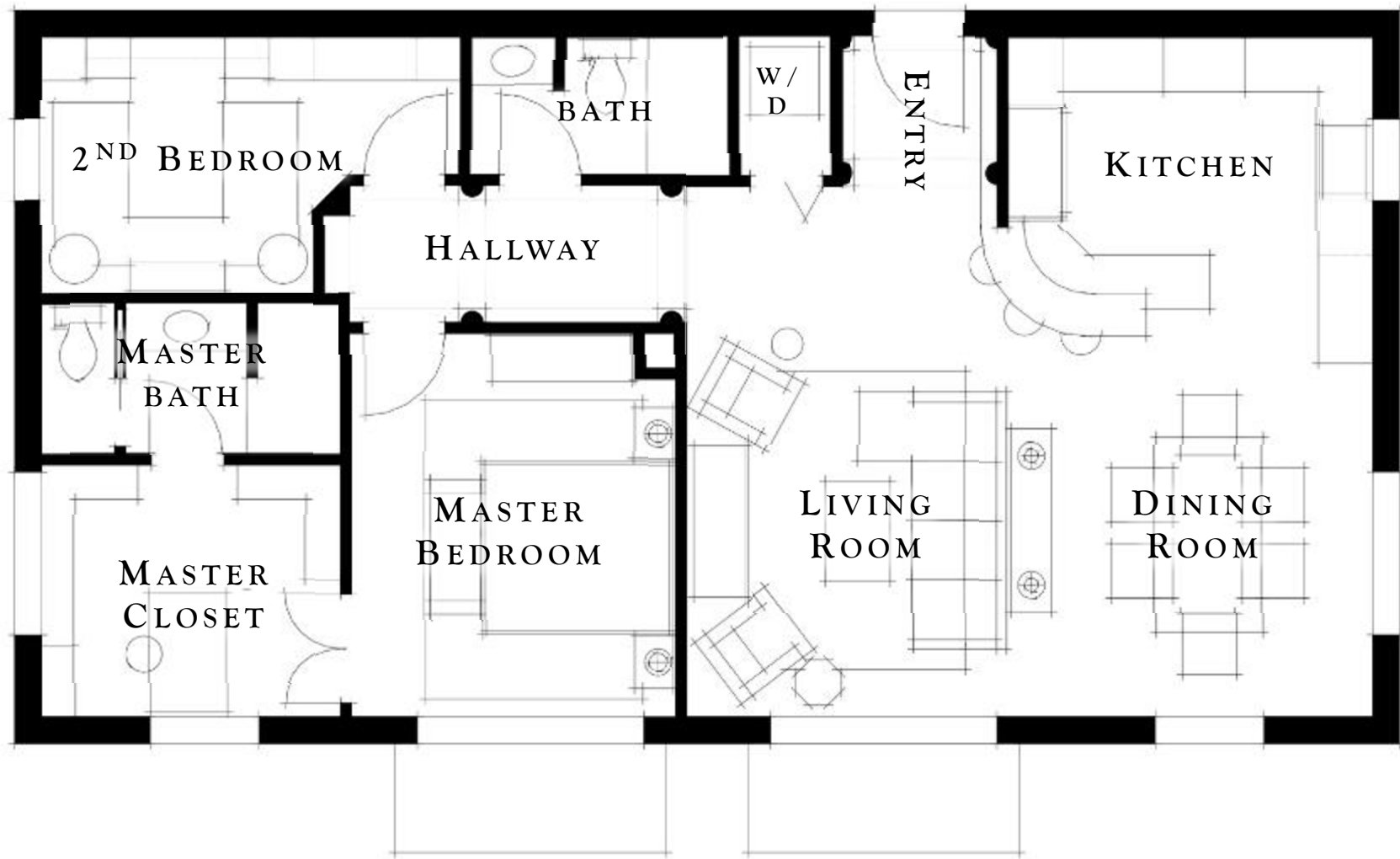
RESEARCH METHODS



To mitigate the types of pain and physical limitations that Letizia Cova experiences due to Fibromyalgia, I researched the disease and developed designs that facilitate physical and psychological comfort throughout the condominium. For example, her muscle pains are more intense in the mornings, so I placed her bedroom in close proximity to Francés for convenient access in the event that she needs assistance.

THE SOLUTION

Juxtaposing Spanish antiques, Moorish textiles, and classical elements with contemporary furnishings, the design solution creates reasonable visual signs of the Covas' cultural heritage and Mediterranean life. Reimagined forms draw from the traditional language of the past, while reflecting contemporary preferences through restraint. The floor plan provides seclusion for both occupants in private spaces, while minimizing walking distances for Letizia to bathroom, laundry room, and son's room. An open plan in public spaces facilitates ease of movement.



FLOOR PLAN



LIVING &
DINING ROOM
PERSPECTIVE



LIVING ROOM
MATERIALS &
SELECTIONS





DINING ROOM
MATERIALS &
SELECTIONS

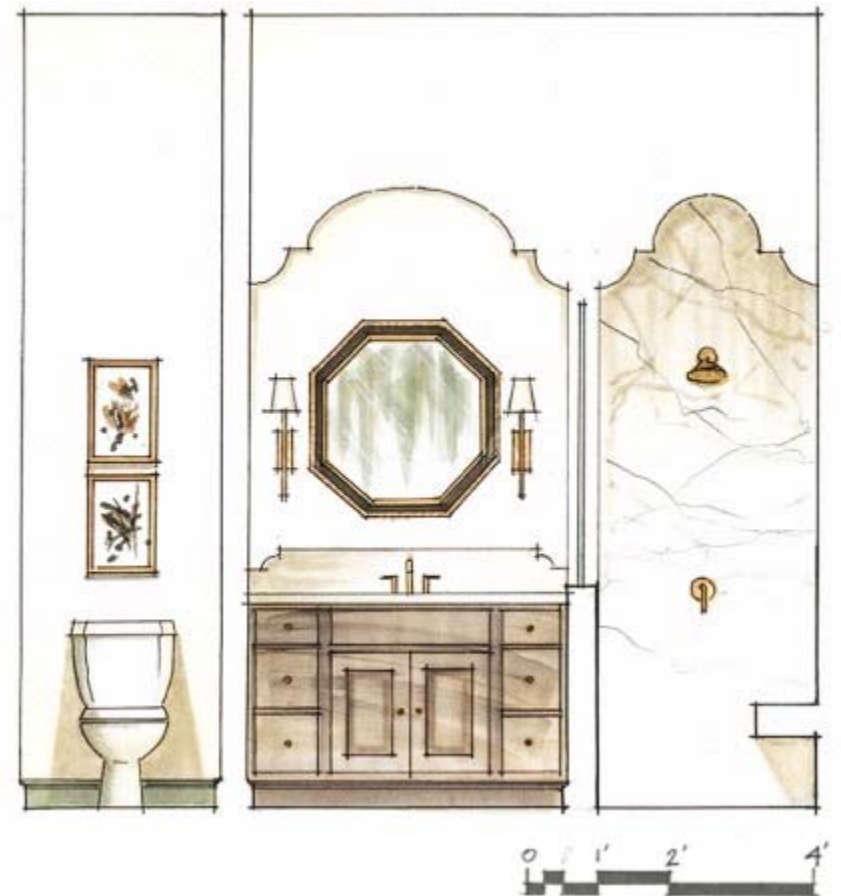




MASTER BEDROOM
PERSPECTIVE



MASTER BEDROOM
MATERIALS &
SELECTIONS



MASTER CLOSET &
BATHROOM
ELEVATIONS

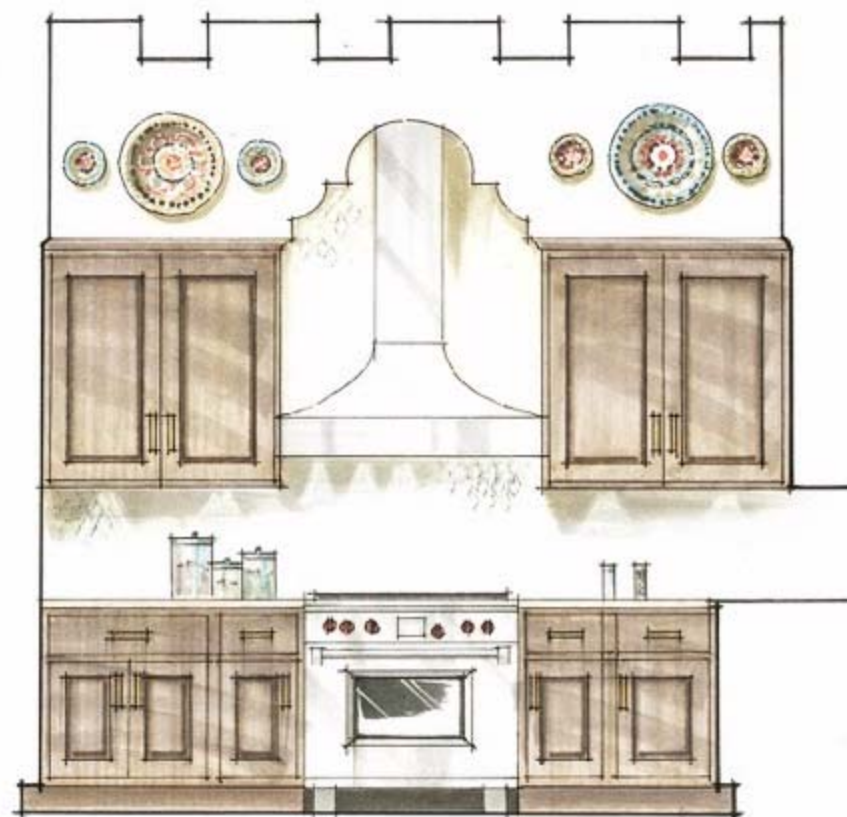
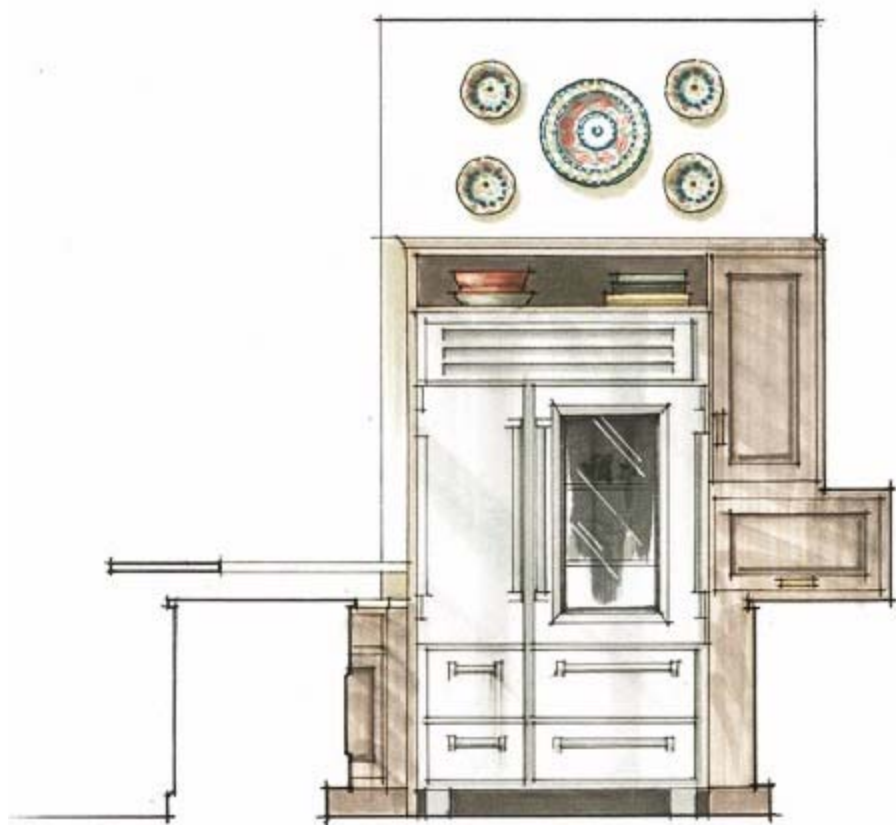


2ND BEDROOM
PERSPECTIVE



2ND BEDROOM
MATERIALS &
SELECTIONS





KITCHEN
ELEVATIONS



KITCHEN
MATERIALS &
SELECTIONS

CONCLUSION

The project is important to designers who collaborate with clients to preserve individual cultural identities in a global economy, by illustrating how designs can be developed using traditional materials, forms, motifs, and symbolism in a contemporary environment. In addition, the plan innovatively expands the perception of space within a small footprint and demonstrates the persuasiveness of hand drawing. Further, it shows how floor plans can be developed to enhance the lives of those with physical conditions. Lastly it communicates authenticity of concept and designer through hand renderings.

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